

Year-Round Plan

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I am in favor of year-round life for Black Mountain College and for myself. I am also in favor of living year-round rather than skirting a break-down for nine months and borrowing money to get away from it all the other three. I love my work, but I have found through the years that I and others whom it affects do it best when we aren't under too much pressure of time or each other. Therefore my idea of a change for the better at Black Mountain College would be not to increase the number of quarters of school work and decrease the weeks of vacation, but to make vacation part of the curriculum.

I would have the two sixteen-week semester system continue, spaced by two months during which no classes would be scheduled. Students would be accepted for entrance twice a year, in August and in February. Learning would probably occur, willy nilly, year round, but curricula would curriculate from August to December and from February to June. From December to February and from June to August would be interludes, work periods, reading periods, vacations, however it please us to think of them. They would, however, be calculated as part of the school year and, unless on leave, we would be present. During these periods, meetings would not be ^{formally} scheduled but could be held by the common consent of those interested. .

If the tuition scale of \$2000-\$750 is necessary to finance the college year-round, that would make \$1000-\$375 per half year.

I prefer that the curriculum remain flexible and that there be no required courses in the usual sense. Since I regard any class I teach as both "background" and "fundamental", I wouldn't wish to give one specially designated as such. I would like the content, duration, and style of courses left to the judgment of the persons

involved, and encouragement given to experiments in teaching.

I would like to see the recording of grades and credits discontinued.

I would like students ~~inf~~ to feel free to take or to by-pass the senior division examination and graduation as they deem most appropriate. I would like students to come to Black Mountain College with the same awareness that we faculty do: namely, that they gain nothing except an opportunity to gain something for themselves, which may or may not have value in the world market; that Black Mountain College is not a hand-maid to other institutions, and that its aim is to help us toward playing well a game we want to play.